

## Wrapping Not Necessary For This Kind Of Gift

What kind of gift wrap do you use for a \$9,325,483 present?

During the fiscal year 1975-76 the broadcast industry wrapped that kind of present in air waves and presented it to Baptists in the form of free air time for programs produced and syndicated by the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission.

The Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission is the world's largest producer of religious programs for airing on radio and television.

The \$8 million plus figure does not include time given the Radio and Television Commission by the nation's three major networks.

"We estimate the value of time from ABC, CBS, and NBC to be approximately \$500,000 during this fiscal year," said Jerome Pillow, the Commission's vice president, marketing services.

The additional figure from the networks raises the total value of the time given Baptist programming to \$9,325,483 — or nearly \$10 million.

"The nearly \$10 million worth of free time is quite a contrast to the amount of time given the Commission in its early days," said Paul M. Stevens, Commission president.

"In 1941 when the Southern Baptist Radio Committee began its ministry to the masses with 'The Baptist Hour,' it was broadcast on 17 radio stations. We

were given approximately \$10,000 free air time."

Thirty years later, by 1971, the total public service time contributed to Baptists by broadcasters had grown to \$8,887,691.

"And it has taken the Commission only five years to nearly double that figure," said Stevens.

Pillow said Commission records indicate that Baptists had at least one program on 5444 different radio and television stations at some time during this past fiscal year.

Currently, 2,731 stations air either a Commission-produced radio or television program weekly," said Pillow. "This represents approximately 5 per cent gain over last year's weekly stations."

Commission-produced programs aired during this free time include "The Baptist Hour," "MasterControl," "Powerline," "Country Crossroads," "SoulSearchers," "Nightsong," for radio, and "The Human Dimension" and "JOT," for television.

Two new television series, "Listen" and "The Athletes," have been released by the Radio and Television Commission this year.

Network programs are regularly produced by the Radio and Television Commission in cooperation with ABC, NBC, and CBS for their "Directions" and "Lamp Unto My Feet" series as well as for hour-long programs.

## State BSU Appoints 47 As Summer Missionaries

This year 47 Mississippi college students will represent their Baptist Student Union serving as summer missionaries in 25 state Baptist convention areas and six foreign countries.

The BSU summer missions program is jointly sponsored by state departments of student work, National Student Ministries of the Sunday School Board in Nashville, the Home Mission Board and the Foreign Mission Board.

The missionaries, chosen by a panel of BSU directors and fellow students, receive no salary. Their room and board is furnished by the personnel on the field where they serve — usually missionaries themselves serve as supervisors. And transportation and other expenses are provided by gifts donated by students in the individual BSUs themselves during the school year. No church is solicited for contributions.

Mississippi Baptist students pledged \$30,000 for 1977.

Fourteen schools are represented in the group of missionaries serving 10 week terms this summer. They will work in the full range of mission activities from recreation to evangelism, in inner cities, in rural outposts, from nursing to resort work.

Ralph Winders directs the Department of Student Work for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

The place of service, name, hometown, and school of each Mississippi summer missionary follows:

Bahamas, Barbara Smith, Greenville, Mississippi College; Bangladesh, Steve Hooker, Perkin, William Carey; India, Patricia Colville, Ruston, LA, Mississippi College; Israel, John Stanley, Braxton, Mississippi College; Malaysia-Singapore, Bob Gross, Tupelo, Miss. State University; Zambia, Eddie Broadhead, Meridian, Mississippi College.

Zambia, Al Fike, Leakesville, William Carey; Zambia, Loretta Reynolds, Grove Hill, AL, University of Southern Miss.; Zambia, Kathy

Staggs, Eupora, Ole Miss; Alaska, Paul Rodgers, Hobart, IN, William Carey; Alaska, Lisa Brannan; Lucedale, William Carey; Arizona, Marcia Brewer, Gautier, William Carey; Arizona, Carolyn Feather, Clarkdale, Miss. Delta Junior College.

California, Doug Taylor, Leakesville, Mississippi College; California, Cathie Bythewood, Partlow, VA, Mississippi College; Colorado, Bonnie Cruse, Pontotoc, Blue Mountain; Georgia, Julie Latham, Forkville, East Central Junior College; Hawaii, Cindy Gardner, McComb, University of Southern Miss.; Illinois, Melanie Taylor, Grenada, Mississippi College; Indiana, Janeth Marshall, Brookhaven, Southwest Junior College; Indiana, Dorothy Bowman, Alexandria, LA, Mississippi College.

Kansas/Nebraska, Mary Winters, Natchez, William Carey; Kentucky, Judi Jones, Laurel, William Carey; Maryland, Barbara Waddle, New Albany, Northeast Junior College; Maryland, Elisha Adams, Terry, Miss. State University; Michigan, Robbin Raulerson, St. George, GA, William Carey; Michigan, Cindy Wilson, Magnolia, Southwest Junior College; Minnesota/Wisconsin, Janet Lyle, Jackson, Ole Miss; Missouri, Susan Underwood, Douglasville, GA, University of Southern Miss.

Nevada, Joanne Myrick, Laurel, Wilson, Barbara Smith, Greenville, Mississippi College; Bangladesh, Steve Hooker, Perkin, William Carey; India, Patricia Colville, Ruston, LA, Mississippi College; Israel, John Stanley, Braxton, Mississippi College; Malaysia-Singapore, Bob Gross, Tupelo, Miss. State University; Zambia, Eddie Broadhead, Meridian, Mississippi College.

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William Carey; New England, Valerie Brewer, Cleveland, Delta State University; New England, Paula Smith, N. Carrollton, William Carey; New England, Ronald Killebrew, Greenwood, Mississippi College; New Eng-

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## SBC Missionaries Remain In Kenya

Nairobi, Kenya — Six Southern Baptist missionaries to Uganda plan to remain in Kenya for an indefinite period, field representative John R. Cheyne said here March 7.

Cheyne said he met with the three couples Sunday night, March 6, and they came to this decision. Cheyne said the latest reports indicate that none of the Christians affiliated with the Southern Baptist work in Uganda have been harmed.

The three couples were out of Uganda when President Idi Amin first ordered Americans to report to him.

Two of the couples, Mr. and Mrs. G. Webster Carroll of West Virginia and

Florida, and Mr. and Mrs. Harry B. Garvin of Texas, went to Nairobi the weekend of Feb. 19-20, to be with their children over a school holiday. Their children attend Rift Valley Academy, a board school outside Nairobi.

The third couple, Mr. and Mrs. James L. Rice of Virginia, went to Nairobi to attend a Feb. 22 meeting with other missionaries from the area.

They all decided to remain in Kenya at least while Americans were prohibited from leaving the country. That prohibition has since been rescinded.

Davis L. Saunders, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's area

(Continued on page 2)



Southern Baptist missionaries are assigned to Soroti and Jinja, where Bible schools are located. Southern Baptists opened work in Uganda in 1962 with a small mobile clinic. The Baptist Convention of Uganda, formed in 1970, has continued its work throughout the period of change to military rule, which has been the form of government since 1971. Although a number of missionaries have been reassigned to other countries, three couples now constitute the mission in the country. The distances on the map are estimates from missionary stations to the most accessible border crossing. (BP photo) See related story, Page 2.

## February CP Gains 57%

Cooperative Program receipts from Mississippi Baptist churches through the offices of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board for February of this year were up \$248,273 over the same period of last year, according to an announcement by Earl Kelly, Convention Board secretary-treasurer.

The total for February of 1977 was \$663,753, which was a 57 per cent increase over last year. The total for the first two months of 1977 has amounted to \$1,238,935, which is \$86,927 or a 7.7 per cent increase over last year. It is \$161,065 short of the pro rata figures for the first two months as applied to the annual budget of \$8.4 million, however.

"As we face our own Decade of Advance to 1985 and the Bold Mission Thrust through the remainder of this decade and this century, we must think of meeting the financial needs of our witnessing efforts," Kelly said.

He pointed out that Southern Baptists have taken upon themselves the task of making the gospel available to every person in the United States before the end of the decade and to every person in the world before the end of the century. "If these dreams are to become reality, we must back them up with the financial support needed," he said.

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## Woman's Missionary Union

# Weatherford Is Featured Speaker For Annual Meet

The 98th annual meeting of Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union will convene in the Harrisburg Baptist Church in Tupelo on March 21-23.

Evening sessions on Monday and Tuesday will begin at 7 p.m. and conclude at 9 p.m. while day sessions will extend from 9:30 until 11:30 a.m. and the Tuesday afternoon session will begin at 1:30 p.m. and conclude at 3:30 p.m.

Featured during the Monday night meeting will be Robert Hamblin, pastor of the host church and president of

the Mississippi Baptist Convention, in a message on state missions. The Blue Mountain College Choir will present special music during the evening.

Tuesday morning will be highlighted by messages from Carolyn Weatherford, executive director, Woman's Missionary Union, SBC, and Mrs. Robert (Frances) Smira, president, Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union.

Parents of Mississippi missionaries

will be special guests during this session and will be honored at a luncheon at noon time.

Home missions will be featured Tuesday afternoon in a presentation by Rodney Webb, of the Cooperative Missions Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, and men in the state who are jointly sponsored by home and state missions. Calvin Isaac, Chief of the Mississippi Choctaw Nation, will present his Christian testimony and the influence of home missions in his life.

Tuesday night has been designated as youth night and girls in GAs, Adolescents and young women in Baptist Young Women are urged to attend. BYWs in the Tupelo-area will provide special music. There will be a "Meet the Missionaries" time for girls and women to meet and secure autographs from the program personnel.

The convention will be concluded on Wednesday morning. Carolyn Weatherford will speak, as will Marjorie Patterson and James Richardson, Foreign Mission Board member from Mississippi.

Foreign missionaries on furlough in Mississippi will speak during the various sessions and will be available for autographs on Tuesday evening.

One of the features of each session will be a dramatic monologue on the life of one of the presidents of Mississippi WMU. These monologues, given by Jan Cossitt, activities director, Morrison Heights Church, Clinton, will

portray something of the lives of some of our presidents, set in the context of what was happening in WMU during the time these women served as state presidents.

Music at each of the sessions will be led by Mrs. Nan Grantham, Music Assistant, Broadmoor Baptist Church, Jackson.

Officers of Mississippi WMU are Mrs. Robert Smira, Jackson, president; Mrs. E. M. Kee, Jr., Woodville, vice president; Mrs. John Causey, Corinth, secretary; and Mrs. Joel Ray, Hattiesburg, associate recording secretary.



Hamblin



Weatherford



Smira



Richardson

## Officials Face Problems Of Sex, Violence On TV

WASHINGTON (BP) — Witnesses before the House Commerce Subcommittee on Communications agreed that too much sex and violence on television is a serious problem.

Agreement ended at that point.

Wilson C. Wear, chairman of the National Association of Broadcasters (NAB), stated, "I personally believe that there are too many violent acts and offensive displays of sex on television."

He then described the process he follows when complaints are received at the station he is licensed to operate in Greenville, S.C.

"We make note of them and make sure that our program people are aware of them. If the complaint is about a network presentation, then we notify the network and find that they

usually contact the complaining individual," Wear continued.

A written statement by two staffers of the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention declared that one day of hearings is not enough "given the widespread concern of the American people about television programming and the documentable need for improvement."

"More hearings are in order and should be held soon," declared the statement by C. Welton Gaddy and Harry N. Hollis Jr., read into the record by U. S. Rep. Albert Gore Jr. (D-Tenn.)

"In addition to listening to network officials and personnel from television-related public agencies, we believe you need to hear from other segments of the American public," the statement said.

It added that the Christian Life Commission will make results of hearings and other television research it has conducted available to the subcommittee.

George Gerber, dean of the University of Pennsylvania's school of communications, testified that a study he recently completed showed "television violence increased sharply in all categories . . . on all three networks" from 1975 to 1976. He said NBC had the highest content, with ABC second and (Continued on page 2)

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SOUTHLAVER, Miss. (BP) — Donald E. Wildmon, the Mississippi minister who urged a nationwide "Turn The Television Off Week" (TTOW) to protest the violence and sex seen on the tube, says that he is forming a national organization to continue the drive for better TV and to fight pornography.

Wildmon, pastor of First United Methodist Church, Southaven, said that papers are now being drawn up for the National Federation for Decency (NFD), which "will not be confined only to television, but will also branch into other areas which are of concern for most Americans."

"One problem which I know we will

go at is the porno on the newsstands," he said. "The NFD will exercise its economic muscle at both the national and local level in behalf of decency. Economic boycotts are not only a possibility, but will be a reality."

Wildmon stated that the NFD would form its own local chapters in every city and hamlet in America. "But we are also going to have affiliate clubs. These will be organizations which are already established. Nearly every local church and synagogue in America has a group in their local unit already organized to do exactly what we will be doing. We are going to try to tie these groups in with us as affiliate chapters."

## Baptist Leaders Discuss Canadian Baptist Affinity

NASHVILLE (BP) — More than 50 Southern Baptist leaders and agency representatives met here to share their views on the best ways to encourage some 35 congregations in western Canada who identify themselves as Southern Baptists.

The fact-finding meeting was called by a special Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board committee which is seeking to prepare a recommendation for presentation to the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) in June.

Representatives of the Northwest Baptist Convention, with which the Canadian churches in question are affiliated, suggested at the meeting that the committee could recommend ways to free SBC agencies to provide further assistance to the Canadian Baptists. Expressions from others at the meeting favored that suggestion.

The Northwest Convention did not request that the SBC constitution be changed to allow seating of Canadian Baptist messengers at SBC annual sessions, but expressed a concern that further avenues of assistance be open to them.

At last year's SBC annual meeting, Hazen Simpson of California moved that the convention "immediately ex-

pend encouragement to Southern Baptists dwelling and working in Canada by financial assistance plus any and all other means of support that we make available to ministry outside of the United States and its territory."

After discussion and an attempt to refer the matter to SBC members of the North American Baptist Fellowship, convention messengers voted to refer the motion to the SBC Foreign Mission Board for study.

The consultation here was planned

immediately following the meeting of the SBC Executive Committee to obtain counsel from a broad spectrum of SBC leadership, including leaders of Southern Baptist agencies and institutions.

Also attending were representatives of the Canadian churches and the Northwest Baptist Convention (formerly known as the Oregon-Washington Convention), which since 1962 has been helping the young churches of Canada's western provinces.

Other committee members are M. Hunter Riggins of Virginia, vice-chairman; William O. Crews Jr. of Oregon, William L. Self of Georgia, Rollin S. Burhans of Kentucky, Grady Wilson of North Carolina, Travis S. Berry of Texas, and James G. Harris of Texas, president of the Foreign Mission Board.

In the past 20 years the work in Canada has grown from one church to some 35 now listed as members of the Canadian Baptist Conference (SBC). Total membership in these congregations, as reported in 1976, was 1,631, with 2,415 enrolled in Sunday School.

# Prime Time 'Mary Hartman' Under Fire In Cleveland

CLEVELAND (RNS) — The religious community in Greater Cleveland has strongly protested the rescheduling of the TV program, "Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman," to prime time, holding that it is not proper family entertainment.

Station WJW-TV, Channel 8, has announced that the program will be moved from 11:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. beginning Feb. 28. Viewers opposed to the move have been urged to vigorously protest the change.

The religion editor of The Plain Dealer of Cleveland observed in an article that five minutes of watching one recent episode "should have been enough to convince viewers that the show is not fit for what has been traditionally the family hour for children."

Describing one five-minute segment, Darrell Holland said "it was unbelievably in poor taste. It depicted a conversation between a distraught husband and his wife." (The man, meanwhile, is characterized as a less-than-faithful husband.)

"The wife was informing her husband of an affair she was having, and the husband was very upset. The sexual escapade was with another wo-

man," he wrote. "It is little wonder that there has been a strong protest from the religious community about moving the program to an hour when many children watch television . . . It certainly is not proper television for children."

Joseph H. Kraker, director of communication for the Cleveland Catholic diocese, has asked concerned viewers to protest the change by writing to Channel 8, by not watching the program when the time change is made, and by writing to each sponsor to "congratulate them on losing you as a customer," and by boycotting Channel 8 news programs.

Joining in the protests are the communications commissions of the Greater Cleveland Interchurch Council and the executive board of the Radio-Television Council of Greater Cleveland.

The "Mary Hartman" time change was made possible by the recent court decision that the family-hour concept was unconstitutional.

Kraker said Channel 8 has shown no sensitivity to community needs regarding the re-scheduling of the "Mary Hartman" show. He said "the

station has said it will run the program during the hour when many children will be watching despite hundreds of letters of protest."

"The airwaves belong to the public, and television producers do not have the right to determine alone what Americans can watch on TV," said Kraker, who initiated the public campaign to halt the rescheduling of "Mary Hartman." He celebrates Mass on Channel 8 each Sunday morning in a public service program and has appeared often on television and radio here.

"We are not trying to get the station to take it (the Hartman program) off the air, but to keep it at a time when generally only adults are viewers," Kraker said.

He said adults "may understand that the show, with its low morals, is a farce, but children do not have a sufficient level of understanding to know it is a farce."

Kraker said if the station does not leave the program in its 11:30 p.m. time slot, he will try to get the Federal Communications Commission to withhold renewal of the station's license in 1979.



## Gulfshore Rebuilding

The main building at Gulfshore assembly grounds takes form as the concrete skeleton rises from the ground. Completion of the rebuilding the facility is scheduled for late this year with a full slate of activities anticipated for 1978. The former buildings of the assembly were destroyed by Hurricane Camille in August of 1969.

## 15 Years In Uganda

RICHMOND (BP) — Since Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) missionaries began work in the East African nation of Uganda in 1962, their work, in cooperation with national Christians, has resulted in 75 Baptist churches with 5,850 members and 67 national pastors.

Total Baptist statistics in the country, according to the Baptist World Alliance (BWA), show 106 Baptist churches with 6,366 members.

The more than 10 million people of landlocked Uganda won their independence in 1962, but the country, currently under military rule, remains a member of the British Commonwealth.

The current government, in power since 1971, has been drawing worldwide headlines with news reports saying that Ugandan President Idi Amin has been purging Christians, including the alleged murder of Anglican Archbishop Janani Luwum. Amin denies the charges.

Three Southern Baptist missionary couples stationed in the country were on a weekend visit to Nairobi, Kenya, Feb. 19-22, when Amin, apparently disturbed by comments by U. S. leaders about his government, put an embargo on Americans leaving the country and ordered some 200 of them in the country to meet with him. Amin has since suspended that order.

Southern Baptists first opened work in Uganda with a mobile medical clinic. Missionaries are now assigned to the cities of Jinja and Soroti. Also, in the capital, Kampala, missionaries report encouraging response to work in several evangelistic centers.

In 1970, the Baptist Convention of Uganda was formed and, with its leaders, has continued Baptist work and witness. Although a number of Southern Baptist missionaries were reassigned to other countries because of the uncertainties of future development in Uganda, the three couples remain under appointment to serve there.

At present four Bible schools operate at Jinja, Mbala, Fort Portal and Soroti. Mr. and Mrs. James L. Rice and Mr. and Mrs. G. Webster Carroll are stationed at Jinja. Rice is business manager and treasurer for the organization of Southern Baptist missionaries in Uganda. Both he and his wife are also in language study. Carroll is an advisor for local churches in evangelism and membership training.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry B. Garvin are stationed in Soroti, where he is field evangelist and principal of a Baptist Bible School. Area pastors attend the Bible School five days each month and are graduated after a two-year course of study. Mrs. Garvin conducts a Bible School for the pastor's wives two or three days each month.

## Lower Drinking Age Makes Higher Crime

AUGUSTA, Me. (RNS) — Juvenile crime has increased and drinking problems have spread to the elementary school since Maine's legal drinking age was lowered to 18, it was reported here.

That was the argument of proponents of bills designed to raise the drinking age in Maine from 18 to 19, 20 or 21 years of age at a hearing before the Maine Legislature's Liquor Control Committee.

Opponents of the measure told the 300 legislators, police officer, parents, teachers and students that more attention should be paid to education about alcohol abuse than raising the drinking age. Proponents cited instances of students arriving drunk at school and insisted that the lowered drinking age of 18 accounts for increases in vandalism and highway accidents.

Sen. Walter W. Hichens (R-Eliot) reported that last year 80 per cent of arrests involving juveniles were for violation of liquor laws. Sen. Charles P. Pray (D-Millinocket) declared, "I have yet to hear any body state that by raising the drinking age they will be able to halt the availability of liquor to minors."

## Youths Plan Takeover Of Baptist Churches

NASHVILLE — Many Southern Baptist churches are expecting a youth takeover in March.

During Youth Week, March 13-20, many adult church leaders will be stepping down and youth will be stepping up to assume temporary leadership positions. The results can be beneficial to adults as well as youth, according to Larry Yarborough, youth work consultant in the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's church training department.

"Youth Week hopefully will give youths a better understanding of leadership roles in the church," Yarborough says, "and in turn it can help adults recognize the significant contributions youth can make in the life of the church."

Yarborough suggests that a steering committee, comprised of several youth and adults who work with youth, be formed to map out plans for the week.

"The committee can consider various schedules and activities for Youth Week in order to best support the theme of 'Youth Exploring Discipleship,'" Yarborough explains. "It should also determine what church positions will be filled by youth and which youth will best accomplish the job."

Yarborough also recommends that the steering committee select the persons to fill church staff positions during Youth Week and present the nominations to the church at a church business meeting.

"The training period is a vital step in preparation," he adds. "Youth and adults should meet together to instruct the youth about the duties and responsibilities of their positions. It's a team effort."

Two resource materials for Youth Week have been prepared by the

church training department's youth section. Youth Week Pak '77 contains a guidebook, worship service suggestions, a listing of church positions and job descriptions, promotional posters and other materials. A Youth Week Guide, designed for both small and large churches, includes helps for conducting a Youth Month and Youth Day, as well as Youth Week.

Both resources are available from Baptist Book Stores or the Materials Services Department at the Sunday School Board.



Beverly Terrell Sings

Bert Jones, associate pastor and minister of education at First Church, Laurel, and immediate past president of the Mississippi Baptist Religious Education Association, chats with Beverly Terrell of Dallas following the annual banquet of the association in Biloxi. Mrs. Terrell is an inspirational soloist and was the singer and speaker for the banquet. She also appeared on the regular program for the association's annual meeting.

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## Violence

(Continued from page 1)

CBS third in overall programming. Federal Communications Commission Chairman Richard Wiley, who admitted portrayal of violence on television is a problem but said it should be handled without government censorship, called Gerbner's findings "disheartening and disturbing."

Vincent T. Wasilewski, NAB president, also acknowledged pressure from the public over violence on television and "its possible effect on the youth of this nation. We recognize it as a problem now, as we have in the past, but the difficulty arises when we talk about how to define it, and then what to do about it once we do agree that it is objectionable to some segments of the public."

Robert Stubblefield, speaking for the American Medical Association, reported to the subcommittee the AMA's action in June of 1976 adopting a "policy that television violence is an environmental hazard threatening the health and welfare of young Americans and indeed our future society."

U. S. Rep. John M. Murphy (D-N.Y.) reminded the subcommittee of the results of the study conducted by the Surgeon General's Scientific Advisory Committee on Television and Social Behavior, released in 1972. The surgeon general reported at that time, "It is clear that the casual relationship between televised violence and antisocial behavior is sufficient to warrant appropriate and immediate remedial action."

Murphy cited several other medical studies supporting the surgeon general's view and then noted, "Despite the accumulation of definitive evidence that there is a causal relationship between televised violence and resultant aggressive behavior, such violence in all its forms is still very much with us. An evening in front of a television set most decidedly tells us that."

Frederick S. Pierce, president of ABC Television, told the subcommittee that ABC now has less violence in its programming than previously.

"The facts are that programs which may include incidents of violence represent a diminishing percentage of ABC's overall prime time schedule," he said.

Industry representatives justified the continuing use of violence in various ways. Pierce noted, "Throughout history, the essence of some drama has been conflict, and in such works violence has always been one means to resolve conflict."

Wearn stated that violence is a part of our society which television mirrors. "We will do something about offensive programming" even though we have no real hard evidence that television violence is the sole cause of any actual violence in this nation. We will act although we believe the reduction of violence on television will be just a drop in the bucket, when one considers all the other models of violent conduct that will continue to be available in our society," Wearn said.

Wasilewski expressed fear of governmental control of broadcasting as a result of the problem of violence on television. "When a problem does exist, such as violence on television, we know it will be up to us to deal with it through self-regulation and self-discipline," he said.

The Ugandan government has been the center of worldwide attention in the wake of news reports filtering out of Africa, which claim a purge of Christians is underway and that Amin murdered Anglican Archbishop Janani Luwum. Amin denies the reports.

The Rices are both from Christiansburg, Va. Garvin was born in Anson, Tex., and his wife in Hamby, Tex. Carroll is a native of Bluefield, W. Va., and his wife was born in Lakeland, Fla.

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# Separate Bible Conference Set For Youths Age 12-17

A Youth Bible Conference for persons ages 12-17, will be held simultaneously with the evening sessions of the Mississippi Baptist Bible Conference, March 28-29.

Theme for the youth conference will be "Youth Questions: God Answers."

The conference will take place both evenings from 6:45 to 9:15, in the Family Life Center of Calvary Baptist Church, 1300 W. Capitol, Jackson. The adults will be meeting in the church sanctuary.

Leadership includes four Mississippians who have special appeal to young people. They are: Tommy Baddley, pastor, FBC, Brandon; Wayne Barber, associate pastor, Colonial Heights church, Jackson; Gene Henderson, pastor, Fairview church, Columbus; and Donn Poole, minister to youth, Broadmoor church, Jackson.

Two special groups from Mississippi College will make presentations during the youth conference. The Cross Section is a drama group which uses puppets and Harvest is a group of musicians, which utilizes brass.

Larry Salter of the Sunday School Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board will emcee the sessions.

The Mississippi Baptist Bible Conference begins at 2 p.m. March 28, concluding at 9:15 p.m., March 29.

Manila, Philippines (BP) — Members of the Luzon Baptist Convention, during their 18th annual session, began steps toward the organization of a mission board. The board is being created by the convention "with the view of supporting missionaries within the convention territory and abroad, as God calls and as convention funds become available," said William T. Roberson, Southern Baptist missionary press representative.



Henderson



Poole



Baddley



Barber

## Lay Renewal Leadership Hold Training Conference In March

Several times a year Mississippi Baptists have the privilege of attending a Lay Renewal Leadership Training Clinic. The first of these for 1977 will be held at First Baptist Church, Winona, March 25-26.

These clinics provide the opportunity for training for persons participating in or interested in Lay Renewal ministries. In addition, fellowship and enrichment are experienced by those who have long been in Lay Renewal endeavors.

Two of the program personalities will be Henry L. Chennault, pastor of First Baptist Church, Aiken, S. C., and Carl Savell, pastor of Woodville Heights Baptist Church, Jackson.

Henry Chennault is a native of Texas. He is a graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, University of Oklahoma and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Prior to becoming pastor of First Church, Aiken, he held several pastorates in Oklahoma, and served for a period as Brotherhood Director for South Carolina Baptists.

Carl Savell is a native Mississippian. He received his education at Mississippi College, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and San Francisco Theological Seminary. He was pastor of Pelahatchie Baptist Church prior to coming to Woodville Heights.

In his earlier ministry he served as pastor for a number of churches over the State. He has been active in denominational work, serving in various associational offices and has published articles for Church Administration magazine.

Others who will be offering leader-

ship in the upcoming clinic are Sidney Ellis of Greenville, well known over the state for his Lay Renewal leadership; and Mrs. Freas (Dot) Friddle of Ripley.

Friday night's session will begin at 7:30 and Saturday morning's at 8:15. Adjournment will be at 12:00 noon. Reservations are available at Winona motels. Both pastors and laymen from all over the State are encouraged to attend.

This program is sponsored by the Brotherhood Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Paul Harrell, Director.



Chennault

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Thursday, March 10, 1977

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 3

## Adam Set Example

By John Alexander  
Director, Stewardship Department

Since Adam set the example, each of us has followed him and chosen to break out of the fence, to trespass; to disobey the law of God established for our health and happiness. To obey the voice of God is not easy for man. He is constantly tempted and drawn in the direction of disobedience. As Christians, we are admonished to keep God's commandments. Samuel, in discussing with King Saul the delights of Jehovah said, "Behold, to obey is better than sacrifice, and to hearken than the fat of rams. For rebellion is as the sin of witchcraft, and stubbornness is as idolatry and iniquity. Because thou hast rejected the word of Jehovah, he hath rejected thee from being king" (1 Sam. 15:23).

Christian man's safety, sanity, and serenity is in obeying the voice of the Lord. Man is obligated to search God's Word, pray, and listen to the call of his Holy Spirit for instructions. In addition to these is the admonition we are to give one another in the name of the Lord.

Because of a need recognized many years ago the churches organized associations, state conventions, and a national convention to keep before them the challenge of their mission and provide ways for helping them carry out their God-given tasks.

Informed church leaders and members recognize the necessity for holding up the banner, for calling the committed to act in behalf of the established objective.

It is necessary that this call be clear and understandable, for how shall the people prepare for battle if the trumpet give an uncertain sound. It is necessary that the objective be worthy of the very life of the participants, for that is what it could cost some if the Lord so chooses.

No wise king going to war overlooks the cost of the campaign or fails to see that supply lines are set up for the troops in the field and on the front lines.

Southern Baptists are engaged in a battle against the world-rulers of darkness and spiritual hosts of wickedness in heavenly places, according to Paul's word to the Ephesian church, chapter 6. The best help we can provide ourselves in this battle is none too good. Although we know how the war will come out, we must nevertheless engage in the daily battles for the hearts of men everywhere. Every believer is responsible to God for seeing that his life and resources are utilized in these battles. We know our Commander-in-Chief. We read and study his word. We pray for his power and guidance. We move under the shield of his love and care. We must wage the war with personal abandonment, for the cause is worthy of our very best.

Just as no chain is stronger than its weakest link, so our effort for Christ is no stronger than our weakest church. To the extent that any church fails to supply its proper share of manpower and resources the cause is weakened. All resources must be utilized in the most efficient manner to realize the greatest possible good for the investment made. Resources must not be kept in storage at the home base when they are desperately needed at the front line.

In the spiritual battles being waged in the war, one great revival must yet occur for victory to be grasped. It is a revival of stewardship. It is committing and directing the resources of Southern Baptists toward the spiritual objectives of world-wide witness of the gospel. Currently there are more than 2,700 missionaries on 82 foreign fields, and more than 2,500 missionaries on the home field, as well as programs of Christian Education, child care, church training, and benevolent ministries that must be supplied at the home base.

If what Sir Winston Churchill is reported to have said about the American people is true, then we are assured of victory. He said, "Their national psychology is such that the bigger the idea the more wholeheartedly and obstinately do they throw themselves into making it a success."

In the next 20 years we will be taking on the whole world! There is need for whatever you have to give and it is needed now!

## State BSU Appoints 47 As Summer Missionaries

(Continued from page 1)

land, Dell Crosby, Jackson, Miss. State University; New Mexico, Tracy Crenshaw, Newton, Meridian Junior College; New Mexico, Debbie Hahn, Ellisville, Jones Junior College; New York, Sheree Tynes, Jackson, Miss. University for Women; New York,

Jerry Pitts, Terry, University of Southern Miss.

Northern Plains, Elizabeth Chain, Collins, Mississippi College; Northwest, Patsy Collins, Laurel, Jones Junior College; Northwest, Lawanda Brown, Forest, Ole Miss; Ohio, Golda Watts, Hattiesburg, William Carey;

Pennsylvania, Phil McDill, Jackson, Mississippi College; Pennsylvania, Theresa Case, Bogue Chitto, Mississippi College; Utah/Idaho, Daryl Coats; Soso, University of Southern Miss.; Virginia, Dianne Sexton, Hattiesburg, University of Southern Miss.; West Virginia, Suzanne Deese, Pensacola, FL, Mississippi College.



Paula Smith



Jerry Pitts



Ronald Killebrew



Debbie Hahn



Dell Crosby



John Stanley



Bob Gross



Dorothy Bowman



Golda Watts



Sheree Tynes



Steve Hooker



Patricia Colville



Patsy Collins



Elizabeth Chain



Melanie Taylor



Joanne Myrick



Barbara Smith



Julie Latham



Lawanda Brown



Cindi Garner



Doug Taylor



Cathie Bythewood



Theresa Case



Phil McDill



Dianne Sexton



Loretta Reynolds



Kathy Stagg



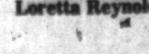
Bonnie Cruse



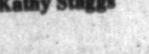
Daryl Coats



Mary Winters



Janet Lye



Judi Jones



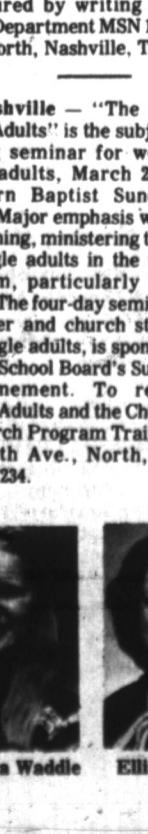
Susan Underwood



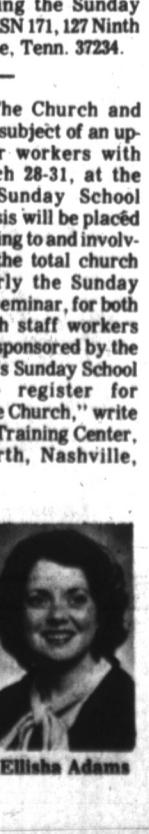
Eddie Broadhead



Al Fike



Barbara Waddie



Ellisha Adams

## Coach of the Year Is Pioneer Speaker



Woitt

## Family Life Will Receive Emphasis

NASHVILLE — Biblical perspectives on marriage and the family provide the framework for a Family Bible Conference, April 15-17, at Ridgeway (N.C.) Baptist Conference Center.

The three-day conference, sponsored by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's Sunday School department, is designed for married young adults age 40 and under.

Sessions are planned on marriage, the family and human sexuality as each is presented in the Bible. Both Old and New Testament concepts of the family will be studied, as well as sociological and religious influences on the family during biblical times. Worship services also will focus on family concerns.

The same Bible study topics will be presented from the psychological perspective by Mrs. Bea Murray, a state-licensed psychological counselor and associate professor of psychology and education at Volunteer State Community College, Gallatin, Tenn.

In addition to Mrs. Murray, other program leaders include John Bunn,

pastor from Sylva, N. C., Bible study leader; Robert Bailey, pastor of First Baptist Church, Concord, N. C., worship leader; and Garry Bone, minister of youth, Judson Baptist Church, Nashville, Tenn., recreational director.

Due to the intensive two-day scheduling, no provision will be made for children. The cost of \$60 for each couple covers two nights lodging and six meals, with the \$10 registration fee applicable to the total cost.

Reservations may be made by writing Family Bible Conference at Ridgeway Baptist Conference Center, Box 128, Ridgeway, N. C. 28770. Additional program information may be secured by writing the Sunday School Department MSN 171, 127 Ninth Ave., North, Nashville, Tenn. 37234.

Nashville — "The Church and Single Adults" is the subject of an upcoming seminar for workers with single adults, March 28-31, at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board. Major emphasis will be placed on reaching, ministering to and involving single adults in the total church program, particularly the Sunday School. The four-day seminar, for both volunteers and church staff workers with single adults, is sponsored by the Sunday School Board's Sunday School department. To register for "Single Adults and the Church," write the Church Program Training Center, 127 Ninth Ave., North, Nashville, Tenn. 37234.



# Early Registration Necessary For 1977 Pastors' Conference

NASHVILLE — Because of a maximum attendance of 200, pastors should register as soon as possible to attend the 1977 Southern Baptist Convention Pastoral Ministries Conference June 17-18 at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kansas City.

The fourth annual pastors' conference follows the Southern Baptist Convention, June 14-16, also to be held in Kansas City.

Sponsored by Midwestern Seminary and the Southern Baptist Sunday

School Board's church administration department, the two-day meeting will feature well-known conference leaders, panel responses, small group discussions, inspiration and fellowship. Discussion topics include leadership, management, personal growth, pastoral care and proclamation.

The dates and location were selected in an effort to provide a convenient and inexpensive training opportunity, according to John Ishee, pastoral ministries consultant in the board's church

administration department and a conference leader.

Registration cost is \$25 for each person or \$35 for a couple. The fee includes lodging, transportation from the motel to the seminary, four meals and a conference notebook.

Interested pastors should send their name, address and registration fee to SBC Pastoral Ministries Conference, Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, 5001 North Oak Street, Traficway, Kansas City, Mo. 64118.

## 13,000 Decisions In Kenya

# Larrimore Returns From Africa; Clothes Burn In Trailer Fire

Jackson music evangelist Tom Larrimore was a member of a team of 15 who spent 23 days in Kenya, Africa, registering more than 13,000 professions of faith in a crusade called "Outreach: Kenya."

Immediately upon his return, he led the music for a revival in First Church,

## Pastors, Laymen To Lead Efforts In Evangelism

RICHMOND — In the next two years, more than 2,700 Baptist pastors and lay persons from the United States and other countries will be participating in at least 38 different evangelistic emphases in 21 countries.

Most of these persons will be coming from Southern Baptist churches in the United States, according to James W. Cecil, Southern Baptist missionary associate currently under assignment in the Foreign Mission Board's department of evangelism and church development. These people, who pay their own transportation to and from the field, will work alongside missionaries and national Baptists for periods of one to four weeks.

Emphases include major city evangelization campaigns, countrywide evangelism outreach efforts, lay evangelism schools, home Bible studies, stewardship development projects and Sunday School enlargement and outreach programs. Youth rallies and music events will also relate to the evangelism projects.

All of these emphases will be working toward the Total Mission Thrust goal of every person having the opportunity to hear the gospel by the year A.D. 2000.

## Med Center Appoints New Assistant

Kent Strum, former administrator of Memorial Hospital in Gulfport, has been named assistant administrator of Mississippi Baptist Medical Center.

A native of Neshoba County and a graduate of Mississippi College in 1965, Strum earned a Master's degree in hospital administration from the Medical College of Virginia in 1967.

He was administrative assistant at University Hospital in Jackson from 1967 to 1969 and was assistant director of that hospital from 1969 to 1973.

He was administrator of the Methodist Rehabilitation Center in Jackson from April 1973 to March 1974, when he went to Memorial Hospital in Gulfport.

# Former Mississippian Is Distinguished Alumnus

FORT WORTH, TX — A retired seminary professor, a denominational worker, and a homemaker and wife of a seminary president have been selected as 1977 Distinguished Alumni at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here. The selection announcement was made by national alumni association president Lavonne Brown of Norman, Okla.

Named were A. Donald Bell, retired, living in Santa Fe, New Mexico; Philip B. Harris, director, church training

Waynesboro, Ga. However, during the revival Tom was hospitalized with a slight virus infection. Tuesday evening, while Tom was in the hospital and Perry Neal, the evangelist Tom was working with was at the church, a fire destroyed the trailer the two were staying in.

The fire destroyed all of Tom's clothes, which he had taken to Africa and all photos, music and memorabilia he had with him on the trip. The fire was of undetermined origin.

Outreach: Kenya operated under the auspices of Wayne Bristow, a Texas-based evangelist. Bristow led a 14-member tour from the U.S. and Switzerland at the invitation of Arthur Kinyanjui, chairman of the Kenya Baptist Convention. Kinyanjui of Nakuru, Kenya, is also vice president (Africa) of the Baptist World Alliance.

The Outreach team traveled nearly 17,000 intercontinental miles and more than 6,200 miles inside Kenya during ministries in six major areas — Kisumu, Kitale, Kericho, Kakamega, Bungoma, and Webuye.

## I'm A P.K.

By Ellen G. Fleming

I'm a preacher's kid. When I was born, I became a P.K., but I didn't know it then. I found out one day in grammar school when a friend called me a P.K.

"You're a P.K.," she taunted. "A P.K.?" what's that?" I questioned.

"Preacher's kid," she replied matter-of-factly.

"Oh, I knew that," I retorted, trying to save my ego.

At that moment, I became aware of my stigma, my difference from other kids whose fathers were everything but preachers. I didn't think it was a stigma, but everybody else did.

Since that event, I've been fascinated with the myth about P.K.'s. Why aren't there myths about E.K.'s (engineer's kids) or F.K.'s (farmer's kids) or why can't P.K. mean professor's kid?

As a P.K., I'm at a disadvantage in understanding the myth. But, I've the suspicion that P.K.'s are just average, normal kids. There isn't any aura of goodness or badness around them, I know.

From my biased viewpoint, I believe the myth goes something like this:

"She's so wild, but what can you expect from a preacher's kid?" Or, "She goes to church all the time because her dad's a preacher." Or, "I just can't see why he's acting that way, his dad is such a good preacher." And the list goes on.

More scientifically, the myth goes:

Larrimore, who wrote two songs while in Kenya, spent 24 years as a minister of music and education in Southern Baptist churches before entering vocational evangelism. He is a graduate of Mississippi College and New Orleans Seminary. He and his wife, Florence, are members of First Church, Jackson. She is a member of the Baptist Record staff.

Necessity makes even the timid brave.—Sallust

## Messianic Jews Contest Israeli Court's Ruling

NEW YORK (RNS) — Messianic Jews have expressed concern over an Israeli court ruling which says that a person who accepts Christ as the Messiah cannot be a Jew.

The ruling was made in the case of Dr. James Hutchens, former chaplain at Wheaton (Ill.) College, who converted to Orthodox Judaism in 1972. He said he and his family converted be-



## Bible Museum

Lewie and Edith Miller line up used Bibles marked for shipment to an overseas mission station. The Southern Baptist couple runs the National Bible Museum in Gatlinburg, Tenn., from which money is fed into Bible distribution. Miller is a retired U.S. Air Force chaplain who turned his Bible collecting hobby into a full-time venture. (BP) Photo

cause of their "strong desire to identify with the Jewish people."

Dr. Hutchens also explained that "we saw conversion as the official means by which we could become one with the Jewish people. We want to be a part of what God is doing with the Jewish people and the land of Israel."

When the Hutchens family moved to Israel in 1974, they applied for citizenship under the country's Law of Return, which grants automatic citizenship to Jews desiring to live there.

The Israeli Supreme Court ruled against them on the grounds that their Messianic beliefs disqualified them from being considered Jews.

The Hutchens took their case to the rabbinical court in Tel Aviv, but they were told they could only become Jews if they renounced their faith in Christ. As a result of their failure to obtain Israeli citizenship, they have returned to the United States.

In an open letter to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, Joseph Finkenstein, president of the Messianic Jewish Alliance of America, said, "This is anti-Semitism turned inward. It has a familiar and frightening ring — they are not like us, get rid of them. What makes this statement (ruling) so reprehensible is that it is made by a Jew against another Jew."

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# Onlookers Cry "Shark!" At Baptism In Grenada

By Elaine (Mrs. Manget) Herrin

ST. GEORGE'S, Grenada — A part of the observance of the first anniversary of St. George's Baptist Chapel here was a rather dramatic and unusual baptismal service.

A week-long deluge of heavy rains was interrupted only long enough for the church group to meet for the morning worship service. They then boarded one of the island's colorful wooden buses bound for the quiet beach area where the group holds its baptismal services.

Before the congregation had assembled, the Sunday sun was again replaced by rapidly gathering black clouds, and light rain began to fall.

Not to be hindered by the showers, Southern Baptist Missionary J. Kenneth Casey led the group in their traditional side-singing as the candidates prepared to go into the waters.

Suddenly the onlookers gasped. Someone whispered, "Shark!" Every eye turned toward the water.

Sure enough, large fins were swirling and arching in the usually calm and deserted swimming area. Then the large fish began to leap and bound in playful splashes.

Baptismal candidates recoiled. A sense of bewilderment pervaded the startled group of believers.

Southern Baptist Missionary Margaret Herrin went to a nearby workman at the swimming area who told him that the large four-to-six-foot finned



## Thrust Has 660 Decisions

Transcatarinense I and Transtotal III, two Brazilian evangelistic efforts, included more than 140 Baptist workers who shared the Good News with people. Workers such as Alberto Veierira (left) and Stela Neves de Silva (center) made house-to-house visits like this one in Concordia. Over 660 decisions were registered by the two recent thrusts.

# Mexican Baptists Assume Added Responsibilities

MEXICO CITY, Mexico — Two giant steps were taken by the National Baptist Convention of Mexico recently.

In separate ceremonies the Mexican Baptist Theological Seminary, located here, and the Mexican American Hospital, Guadalajara, passed from the management of the Mexican Baptist Mission (organization of Southern Baptist representatives) to the National Baptist Convention of Mexico.

"These are important steps, giant steps," explained Charles W. Bryan, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board's area secretary for Middle America and the Caribbean. "The moment has arrived when the National Baptist Convention of Mexico is ready to plan, administer and carry out the work in this country. It gives me great pleasure to turn the hospital and seminary over to the churches of Mexico."

The convention, in accepting the seminary and hospital also accept responsibility for them. National Baptists were challenged to support the institutions with their prayers, time, talents and finances.

Librado Ramos, president of the Mexican National Baptist Convention, added, "Please tell our brothers in the United States who have supported the work here in Mexico for many years that there is deep gratitude in our hearts for all they have done."

Southern Baptists have not only given us institutions, they have given

us their hearts. We will continue their work with faith in the God of heaven following the principles of God's word."

According to Robert L. Perry, Southern Baptist press representative, these services marked miles

## A New Container

By W. Levon Moore  
Director of Missions  
Attala Association

The church did not really want to do it. Fear of the unknown caused many to be skeptical of an unfamiliar activity. They had always had a summer revival and had never had a Lay Renewal Weekend. It took patient, yet aggressive and mature, pastoral leadership to change attitudes and develop confident anticipation on the part of the congregation.

After several months of cultivation and Holy Spirit preparation, the Springdale Church in Attala Association voted to engage in a lay renewal program. The pastor, Floyd Higginbotham, had adequately prepared himself by learning all he could about this relatively new program of Southern Baptists.

Fortunately, the church was enabled to secure the services of some well-trained leaders from other sections of the state. The suggested com-

mittees were organized and several weeks of intensive preparation took place. When the appointed weekend came, the church received the visiting team with eager anticipation.

From the first greeting of "hello, God loves you and I love you" to the last farewell of "good-by, and God bless you" it was an unforgettable experience.

There were moments of inspiration, rich fellowship and deep soul searching. Members of the church who had not recently been active became involved and many rededications were made. Some old personal grudges were uprooted and attitudes were changed. Tongues which were previously silent on spiritual matters became instruments of outward praise and testimony. Smoldering embers of spiritual commitment were fanned into brilliant flames. When the weekend of activity had drawn to a close, many of the people said, "This was one of the best revivals our church ever had."

One of the most important features of the program was the setting up of various small sharing groups. Some of these groups are still meeting, and through them, the lives of many people are being blessed.

As every Christian knows, high peaks of spiritual experience cannot be constantly sustained. There is, of necessity, a leveling off period. But the testimony of pastor and members alike agree that at Springdale spiritual fires were kindled which continue to radiate warmth throughout the church and community.

This experience taught one congregation that God does not always transmit his revivals in the same type of container.

## What The Church Means To Me

By David Miller, Pastor  
Lucian Baptist Church, Brookhaven

In a world filled with unrest and hatred stands the Church, filling my whole life. It is the center of my being, giving me a reason for living. Everyone is looking for a cause to stand for, and I have found mine — the teachings of God's Church.

The Church is not out of date. It has a reason for existing and has something to offer today's American. In my

search for reality the Church gave the only answers.

The Church offered me acceptance. I became part of a group of searchers desiring to find why life matters. I was loved for what I could be instead of what I was. I became part of something much bigger than myself.

The Church offered me friendship. I joined with people who cared about the problems in my life. When I am high, they rejoice with me. When I am down, they cry with me. When problems be-

come too much, they come to my aid.

The Church offered me a hope of a better tomorrow. I was introduced to the God who made me and came to earth to show me His love. I was introduced to His plan for my eternal life. My life found peace and assurance of something better to come.

The Church offers to all in our complex world acceptance, friendship, and a hope of a better tomorrow. Everyone can find what I have found. The Church has something we all need, and I'm glad to be part of it.

## Simpson County Sets Crusade For Christ

E. J. Daniels, internationally known evangelist from Orlando, Fla., will be the featured speaker at a special evangelistic service to be held at the First Baptist Church, Men- denhall, Monday, March 14, 8:00 p.m. The rally will be a "sample" of what is to come in the Simpson County Crusade for Christ, to be conducted April 17-24 under a giant canvas cathedral at City Park, Magee.

According to Caley R. Nichols, pastor of the Eastside Baptist Church of Magee, and general chairman of the crusade, the goal for Monday evening's rally will be to have at least 600 people from the Central Mississippi Area to fill and overflow the auditorium.

Although sponsored by the Simpson County Baptist Association, the crusade is for people from all churches as well as for those who do not attend any church, according to Nichols.

The public is invited to the rally at 8:00.

## Tishomingo County Crusade To Be In Iuka And Belmont

Two weeks of evangelistic crusades by Tishomingo Baptists and other denominations will be held in Belmont March 13-19, and in Iuka March 20-27. More than thirty churches are involved.

The Lowell Leistner-Bill Penley revival team will lead the crusades. Leistner, the evangelistic singer, lives in Orlando, Florida and Bill Penley,

### Pastor's Wife Dies

Mrs. Donald O'Quinn, 37, wife of the pastor of First Church, Charleston, died suddenly and unexpectedly Sunday night, March 6.

Funeral arrangements were incomplete at the time the Baptist Record went to press.

## Off The Record

The champion athlete in bed with a cold was told that he had a temperature.

"How high is it, Doctor?" he wanted to know.

"A hundred and one."

"What's the world's record?"

A son at college wrote his father: "Dear Dad—You haven't sent me a check in two weeks. What sort of kindness is that?"

His father replied, "Dear Son—That is unremitting kindness."

Al: "I saved up some money and bought a farm ten miles long and one inch wide."

Sal: "What are you going to raise on it?"

Al: "Spaghetti."

A man decided to carry home a heavy grandfather's clock which his wife had bought in an antique shop. As he staggered down the street almost hidden by the clock, a sympathetic passerby stopped him and asked, "Have you ever tried a wrist watch?"

John: "I joked with the butcher and asked him for a yard of pork."

Tom: "What did he give you?"

John: "Three pig's feet."

The old truck driver passed the cute redhead, popped on brakes and yelled, "Hi, ya, babe!" The redhead threw back her head in the air and said, "I beg your pardon. That's no way to talk to a girl whose telephone number is 256-6025."

A man coming home from work one evening noticed a sign that his son had tacked up on the front of the house. It said: "Dog for sale — one cent." The man told his son to think in bigger terms. One cent was too low a price to pay for a dog, he said. The next day, the boy changed the sign to read: "Dog for sale — \$10,000." When his father came home that night he noticed that the sign was gone. "Did you sell your \$10,000 dog?" he asked his son. "Yes," the boy said. "But I had to take a trade-in two \$5,000 cats."

A life-insurance salesman was standing beside a tractor trying to sell a farmer a policy, but the farmer, looking down, said, "No, sir, I want no life insurance — when I die I want it to be a sad day for everybody." — GLORIA PITZER

A couple vacationing in Rome were being shown through the Colosseum. "Now this is the room," said the guide, "where the slaves dressed to fight the lions." "But how does somebody dress to fight lions?" asked the Mrs. "Very slowly," replied the guide.



Sharon and Ricky

## Ventriloquist Decides To Be Missionary

Miss Sharon Wilson, a student at Clarke College, surrendered her life to the Lord's call to missions during a recent worship service at the Hanging Moss Baptist Church in Jackson. Since making this decision, her ability as a ventriloquist has been used to win others to the Lord. She and "Ricky" have appeared at banquets, children's churches, revival crusades, and regular worship services across the State.

"Ricky" presents the claims of Christ in a unique manner which captivates his audiences regardless of their ages. They are available to churches on a free-will offering basis on weekends during the remainder of the school term.

However, invitations will be accepted for Youth Retreats, Vacation Bible Schools, Revival Crusades, regular Worship Services, or other special church services during the summer months. Sharon and "Ricky" may be contacted at 145 Green Harbor Drive, Jackson, Ms. 39206 or at telephone number 362-1350.

Sharon's father, Paul Wilson, is pastor of the Hanging Moss Baptist Church.

## First, Ellisville, Presents Pageant On History Of WMU



Left to right are Mrs. Harold Hardee, WMU director at First, Ellisville; W. C. Burns, pastor; and Mrs. Jeff Walters, Centennial chairman.

led the prayer for the missionaries on the prayer calendar. The program concluded with the singing of the Mississippi WMU Centennial Hymn. The pastor, W. C. Burns, gave the closing prayer.

The following characters were portrayed: Mrs. J. L. Johnson Sr. by Mrs. Clifford Watson; Mrs. A. J. Aven by Mrs. W. C. Reynolds; Miss Margaret Lackey by Mrs. M. P. Carter; Miss Fannie Taylor by Mrs. S. M. Thomas; Mrs. Frances Landrum Tyler by Mrs. Carl Wilson; Miss Nell Taylor by Mrs. Vonda Clay; Miss Edwin Robinson by Mrs. H. E. Myers.

The Book Fair used the theme of Focus Week, "To Know is to Grow."



Three Minutes on News and Needs Through April 1

## Revival Dates

Mt. Zion Church, Florence: March 9-13; youth-led revival; Dennis Duvall, evangelist; Stan Weatherford; song director; Cynthia Hammock, pianist; Nancy Myers, testimony; Rev. Milton Sargeant, pastor.

Whitesand Church, Prentiss: March 16-20, Terry L. Long, William Carey College student, evangelist; Ricky Hamm, University of Southern Mississippian, and minister of music at FBC, McLaurin, music director; services at 7:15 p.m.; Billy Greene, pastor.

Crooked Creek Church, Silver Creek: March 13-18; Toxie Hedgepeth, evangelist; services Sunday morning and afternoon with lunch in fellowship hall; Monday-Friday at 7 p.m.; W. M. Buffington, pastor.

Eastside Church, Rankin County: March 13-18; Grey Allison, president of Mid-America Seminary, Memphis, evangelist; Hubert Greer of Men- denhall, full-time music evangelist, singer; Howard Benton, pastor; services Sunday at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; during week at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Midway Church, Pontotoc: March 13-18; Lamar Pickens, Pastor of Bel- lieve Church, Pontotoc, evangelist; music under direction of Mrs. W. C. Mathews; regular services on Sunday; Monday-Friday, evening services; pastor, Winston Ross.

Center Terrace Church, Canton: March 13-18; T. J. Delaqua, evangelist; Edwin McNeely, music evangelist; services 7 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Zack Wingham, pastor.

New Hope Church, Route 3, Ellis- ville: March 13-16; Chuck Kelley of New Orleans, evangelist; music under direction of Tom Wells of New Orleans; regular services on Sunday; teaching sessions for the youth Monday-Wednesday at 10:30 a.m.; night services at 7; Earl Clark, pastor.

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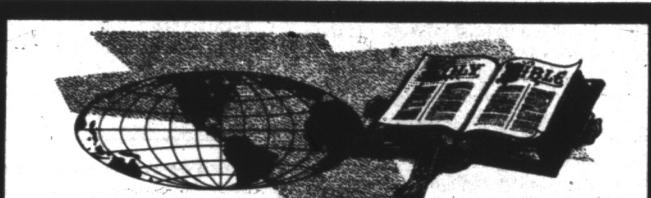
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Tupelo, First.....March 14

Columbus, First.....March 15

Meridian, Baptist Center.....March 15

Hattiesburg, First.....March 16

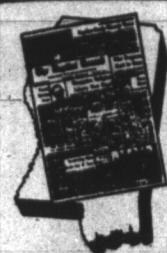
Greenwood, First.....March 16

March 14, 15, or 16

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## Just For The Record



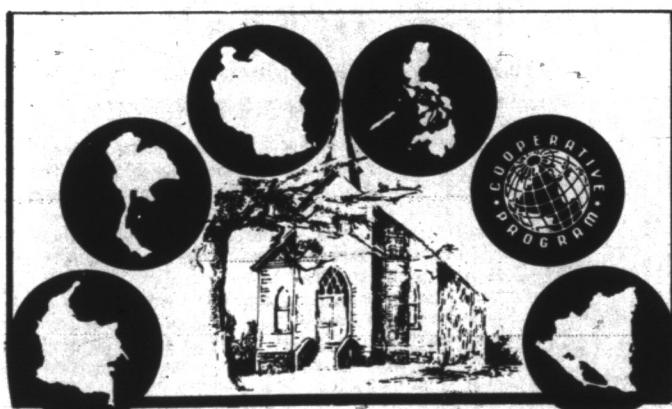
Abbeville First Baptist Church recently held a note burning and dedication service for the large fellowship building. It consists of a modern kitchen, rest rooms, storage closets and a large dining hall, which is also used for classrooms. The building

committee was left to right: Wayne Ward; Jessie Smith; Thomas R. Gunter; Glen Klepzig; Donald Roy; and Millard L. Swinney, pastor. The chairman of the committee John M. Roy, was unable to be there on that day.



Gary Bowlin and members of the West McComb Baptist Church (formerly Sunny Hill) extend an invitation to all former and charter members, former pastors and friends to attend the Dedication Services for the sanctuary which was recently completed.

On March 13th, there will be morning services, dinner on the ground and the dedication service at 2:00 that afternoon.



### Our Church . . .

### ... And The Cooperative Program

By Joe McKeever

Pastor, First, Columbus

Some time ago a committee from our church was interviewing a prospective staff member in a distant city. In giving a profile of this church, the chairman pointed out that we give 26% of our income through the Cooperative Program.

"Huh," the staff worker grunted. "If people knew what went with that Cooperative Program money, they wouldn't be so quick to give to it."

The interesting thing about his snide remark was that the members of that committee knew a great deal more about what happens to the Cooperative Program money than he. One member, a dentist, serves on the State Convention Board and sees intimately the varied needs which this money ministers to. Another is the chairman of deacons, who has 25 years of deep involvement in the Lord's work in his church and throughout the state. The

women on the committee know personally of the dedicated service rendered by many state, home and foreign workers—all supported by our gifts through the Cooperative Program.

The First Baptist Church of Columbus believes strongly in the Cooperative Program as the best method yet for ministering to many needs in a simple efficient manner. In the past three years its gifts through this channel have increased from \$58,000 to \$105,000 annually.

We feel somewhat like Churchill did as he spoke of democracy — while it obviously has its flaws, it's better than all the other systems. The Cooperative Program may not be perfect, but it's the best method yet for what it does: support Christ's work in all aspects and all places at all times.

Third in the state in per member giving through the Cooperative Program, First, Columbus gave \$7.17 or an increase of \$12.07 per member in 1976.

### Evangelism Tapes Are Available

Cassette tapes of the Evangelism Conference are available by ordering from Wayne Long Taping Service, Box 145, Lambert, Mississippi 38643.

The following tapes are \$3.00 each: Lehman Strauss, "Rigged For the Journey"; Lehman Strauss, "The Test of Trials"; Lehman Strauss, "The Test of Temptations"; Lehman Strauss, "The Test of the Tongue"; Landrum Leavell, "The Stripped Down Church"; Landrum Leavell, "The Power of the Holy Spirit"; Jack Stanton, "The Church Ministering to the World Through Evangelism"; Jack Stanton, "How To Get the Most Out of Life"; Howard Foshee; "Do

The following tapes are \$3.00, but any TWO messages may be put on one tape: Russell Bush, "Reminders for Evangelism"; John McCall, "Basics of Evangelism"; John Brock, "Developing an Evangelistic Church"; Marvin Graham, "Stand In Your Place"; John Causey, "Put Jesus in the Center."

Zeal is fit for the wise, but it is found mostly in fools.

There will be a Missionary Prayer Retreat at the Wayside Baptist Church in Warren County, March 16-20. Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Graham, former missionaries to Jamaica and Guyana, will be the guest speakers. Meetings will be held at 7:30 each evening except Sunday.

There will be day sessions Thursday and Friday beginning at 10:30 with potluck lunch after the meetings. Mrs. Graham will be teaching the mission book "Stronger Than Mushrooms," Friday morning. The public is invited. Alton Hodnett is pastor.



The Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church on February 27, ordained four men as deacons. They are, l to r: Lamar Crocker, pastor; John Woodruff, Frank Woodruff, Billy Carl Irwin, Oliver Nelson. Dewey Roach gave the charge to the deacons. Each was presented a certificate of ordination and a copy of The Ministry of the Deacon by Howard Foshee.

### Silver City Dedicates

Silver City Baptist Church is holding a dedication service for its building and property, March 13.

Charles Treadway, staff member of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, will deliver the dedicatory address at the 10:30 a.m. worship service.

All members, former members, and friends are invited for lunch in the church fellowship hall, immediately after the morning service.

C. C. Caraway is pastor.

### Gloria Roe Sings At Morrison Hgts.

Gloria Roe presented a Sacred Music concert March 6 during the evening worship service at Morrison Heights Baptist Church.

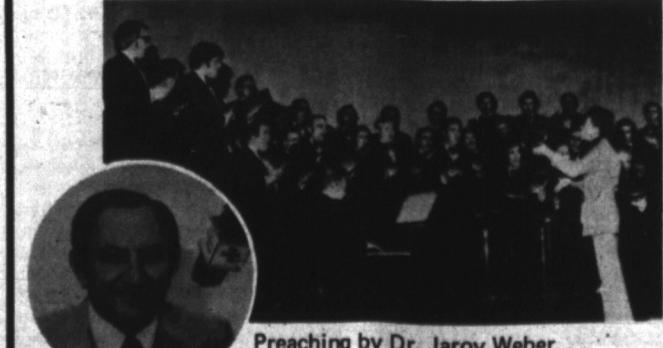
One of America's most gifted performers, composers, and arrangers, Gloria has appeared at the White House three times, featured pianist-singer with Fred Waring, and participated in USO tours all over the world. She has studied concert piano under the famed Francis Zulaginski (a student of Paderewski) and made her musical debut at Carnegie Hall at age eleven. Miss Roe has received several awards for her musical ability, including: a Grammy Award nomination in 1975 and an evangelical film festival award for best original film score in 1969, and in 1971 she was elected to the Sacred Music Hall of Fame.

She has been featured musical guest at the Billy Graham's New York Crusade, Campus Crusade for Christ's Expo '74 and the Southern Baptist Convention in 1976. She composed the piano score for Jerome Hines' sacred opera, "I Am the Way".

Charles Gentry is pastor.

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Thursday, March 16, 1977

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 7

## Bruce Church Observes Its 50th Anniversary



### Pryor Accepts Award From MC

Paul J. Pryor, right, Executive Director of Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, has received the Mississippi College "Service to Humanity" award "for exceptional contribution to his denomination and his community."

Pryor has served as the chief executive officer of the hospital for over 21 years and is a Fellow of the American College of Hospital Administrators and a former president of the Mississippi Hospital Association.

Lewis Nobles, left, President of Mississippi College, presented the award at a recent dinner at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center.

The college is making these awards as part of its 150th anniversary as an educational institution, said Nobles, based upon "contributions to church, community and state or any activity which has demonstrated a humanitarian service."

BANGKOK, Thailand — Southern Baptist Missionaries Mr. and Mrs. Hubert A. Fox recently held a buffet dinner for all the parents and teachers of students who live in the hostel where they are dormitory parents. The dormitory, provided by the Foreign Mission Board, is located across the street from the International School in Bangkok where the MK's (children of missionaries) attend.

A Woman's World Reaches Far Beyond the Ironing Board

Wilda Fancher

First Baptist Church in Bruce is 50 years old and will observe its golden anniversary in special services this October.

B. J. Bennett, chairman of the committee to plan the church's semi-centennial said, "We are very excited over the opportunity to have a 50th year celebration and the committee will be working very hard on plans for an occasion we hope everyone will enjoy."

Committee members are Bennett, Jim Jeffreys, Darrel Maddox, Mrs. J. R. Henry, Mrs. J. R. Young, and Mrs. S. Gale Denley.

L. E. Gandy, church pastor, said records indicate the church was formed in the fall of 1927 with 46 members.

According to a history compiled in 1955, the church was "mothered by

old Mt. Comfort Missionary Baptist Church. "In September, 1927," the historian wrote, "the Mt. Comfort Missionary Baptist Church . . . voted to transfer the church to the Town of Bruce. A building was erected in Bruce soon thereafter and First Baptist Church was instituted."

According to church records a number of charter members are still living. They are: Mr. and Mrs. Lester Foster, Mrs. L. E. Shelton, Mrs. J. P. Shelton, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Beckett, Sr., Veto Cleveland, Mrs. Glennie Branum, Mrs. Lillian Harper, Mrs. Itura Whitworth, William Johnson, Mrs. Clemmie Branum, Mrs. Frances Bramlett, Mr. and Mrs. Dee Snellings, W. H. Thompson, J. B. Adams, Mrs. Ola Scroggins, Mrs. Birdie Beckett Branum, Mrs. Arville Cleveland Boggs and Mrs. Alma Smallwood Reynolds.

Since that time the church membership has steadily grown and resident membership of First Baptist is now 690, according to Gandy. Total enrollment which includes those who live away but still hold membership is 850. In recent years, the church has added an educational building, remodelled and enlarged the sanctuary, and most recently, completed a new pastoral home. Future plans call for more building and remodelling.

"In the meanwhile," Bennett said, "the committee would like to have access to any old records or information that anyone might have relating to the church's early history."

The church's celebration coincides with the town's semi-centennial observance which will also be held this year, in June.

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In appreciation for ten years of faithful service, Carroll-Montgomery Associations presented to Laron Hatten and Mrs. Hatten a check to be used for a tour of the Holy Land. Left to right, Joe Hardin, treasurer of the associations; Mrs. Hatten; Hatten; and John Wade, pastor of the Vaiden Church, who instigated the effort. The exact time and tour have not been selected.

## Names In The News



Officers of the Mississippi Club at New Orleans Seminary are shown. Left-right: Roy McKay, PR Chairman from Columbus; Russell McIntire, vice president of development for the seminary, sponsor; Daniel Forsee, vice-president from Biloxi; Manuel Weeks, secretary-treasurer from Tutwiler; and President Jimmy Dukes of Cleveland. (NOBTS PHOTO)

William Carey College science student, Garey Bonner of Waynesboro, has been notified of his acceptance to the University of Mississippi Dental School for the fall of 1977. The son of Mr. and Mrs. O. E. Bonner, Garey is a graduate of both Waynesboro Central High School and of Jones Junior College. He will receive his bachelor's degree from William Carey College in May of this year.

Bob Sandefur of Omak, Wash., has been approved to receive Church Pastoral Aid (CPA) by the Home Mission Board. Sandefur will continue to pastor the Valley Baptist Chapel in Omak. He is a native of Luka, Miss.

Judith Ann Wooldridge recently was named as a consultant in the youth section of the church training department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board. A native of Missouri, Miss. Wooldridge attended the University of Missouri, Columbia, and graduated from Mississippi College, Clinton. She received the M.R.E. degree from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville.

Edythe Montroy, emeritus missionary to Nigeria, may be addressed at 241 Sage Ave., Drew, Miss. 32737. She retired due to a medical disability in 1971.



Lewis Gooch has moved to Shaw, Miss., as Pastor of the Shaw Baptist Church. Pictured with him are his wife, Gwen, and their two children, Pattie and Tony. The Gooch family moved to Shaw from the Tinsley Baptist Church, Tinsley, Mississippi, where Lewis served as Pastor. Lewis holds a Diploma in Theology from Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville, Florida, and a BA degree in Psychology from Mississippi College, Clinton. Gwen attended the University of Georgia where she studied nursing and Baptist Bible Institute where she studied religious education. Lewis answered God's call into the Gospel Ministry in 1970. At that time he was employed by an Aero Space Firm in Huntsville, Alabama, as a Technical Writer.

Steps in church long-range planning will be outlined at Nashville during a March seminar offered by the Sunday School Board's church administration department. Carl Savell, pastor of Woodville Heights Church, Jackson, will be on the program. Planning for Church Growth, a five-day seminar designed for pastors, church staff members, church long-range planning committee members and church council members, will be March 14-18 in the Sunday School Board's Church Program Training Center.

Robert M. Hanvey, pastor of Easthaven Church, Brookhaven, has been selected to appear in the second edition of Who's Who In Religion. Hanvey has been pastor of the Easthaven church since January 6, 1974.

Paul and Brenda Lee, missionaries to Spain, may be addressed at Paseo al Moi, 119-4-D, Valencia 13, Spain. Both are natives of Mississippi.

Glen Savell, pastor of Bethlehem Church, Lacey's Spring, Alabama, has been selected to appear in the second edition of Who's Who in Religion. He is a former pastor of the Eastlawn Church in Pascagoula. He served for three years as a full-time evangelist. At Lacey's Spring Church last year they baptized 100. Savell, native of Mississippi, is married to the former Becky Seale and has three daughters.

Jimmy Smith is the new associate pastor and minister of education at First, West Point.

A graduate of Mississippi State University, he received the Master of Divinity degree from Southwestern Seminary. While a senior at MSU he was interim minister of music at First, West Point. He was also a member of a College Revival Team and a BSU summer missionary. Since being licensed to the ministry in 1968, he has served a fifteen-month pastorate and other churches as youth-and music director or associate pastor. He is married to the former Julia Shannon of Pontotoc. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. Athel Smith of Booneville.

Louin Church has announced the resignation of Howard Davis.

Pastor at Louin for nine years, Davis is leaving to accept the pastorate of churches in Webster County. At a supper February 17, the church presented to Davis and his family an engraved silver tray and a nice check. Mrs. Joe Holder, WMU director, made the presentation. During the nine years that Davis has been pastor at Louin, new pews and a new carpet have been installed at the church and a new pastorum has been bought.



Carl Savell, right, pastor of Woodville Heights Church, Jackson for nine years, discusses a list of priorities for the minister with Ed Onley, left, director of church-community ministries for the Capital Baptist Association in Oklahoma City, during a Personal and Professional Growth Course at the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville. Walter Bennett, standing, is one of the course's two directors. The 12-day course is conducted by the pastoral section of the board's church administration department.

The Joe Thomas Odle Memorial Scholarship at Mississippi College for the current school year has been awarded to Jerry Lynn Gentry of Clinton. Gentry, son of Charles Gentry and Mrs. Gentry, of Clinton, is a ministerial student at the college. His father is pastor of the Morrison Heights Church in Clinton and his mother is an instructor in speech at the college. Young Gentry is a graduate of Clinton High School.

James Kerry Nations, Jr., of Jackson has been awarded the T. M. Hederman, III, Memorial Scholarship at Mississippi College for the 1977-78 school session according to Van D. Quick, vice-president for student affairs and chairman of the Financial Aids Committee. Nations, son of Mr. and Mrs. James K. Nations, Sr. of Jackson, will graduate from Forest Hill High School this spring. He expects to study medicine or law at Mississippi College.

Cliff Temple Baptist Church ordained David Upton and Danny Goldman to the deacon ministry Sunday night, February 27.

The pastor Bryant Hazlip, presented them with a certificate of ordination and a gift copy of the book *The Ministry of the Deacon*.



The new MISS CAREY COLLEGE, crowned on February 22, is Suzanne Freeman, sophomore music education major from Gautier, who holds membership in First Church, Moss Point. The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray Freeman. She will reign as Homecoming Queen on March 26. In July she will represent her college at the state pageant in Vicksburg. Last year's winner, Bobbie Wood, went on to capture the Miss Mississippi title.

## Sunday School Lesson: International For March 13

# The Way Of Authentic Prayer

By Wm. J. Fallis  
Luke 11:1-13; 18:1-14

Nothing in the Gospels hints that Jesus intended to start a new religion. He was faithful in synagogue attendance on the sabbath; he went to Jerusalem for the Passover; he quoted the Law and the Prophets. Although he was criticized by both Pharisees and Sadducees, he never renounced his Jewish faith in God.

But in the book of Acts, Luke uses several times the word *way* to describe the followers of Jesus. He said of himself: "I am the way, the truth, and the life" (John 14:6). His disciples found in him the saving way to God, and he insisted on a loving way to relate to others. Last Sunday we talked about "The Way of Unselfish Service" to which Jesus pointed; today we look at another characteristic of the "Jesus Way," relating to God through authentic prayer.

Following Jesus' Model (Luke 11:14)

Pious Jews in Jesus' day had three times daily for reciting the same prayer. Evidently his disciples were dissatisfied with what they were doing and wanted prayer to be more meaningful. Jesus responded to their request with a short and simple petition that is yet broad and comprehensive; a model for praying. It was not intended as a substitute for real praying.

It begins with the recognition of God's nearness as "Father" and his otherness "in heaven." Immediately it adds four words to capture the awe in God's presence. The prayer then asks that God's reign might begin, that he might soon be acknowledged as Lord everywhere. When that time came, his will would control those on earth as it does those in heaven. Because Jesus was sensitive to everyday human needs, he included "daily bread" in his Model Prayer. Then he turned to another common need; forgiveness — both from God and among persons. He closed the prayer with a dual petition for deliverance from temptation (testing) and from the evil one. Here is pattern enough for all our praying. While other petitions can be added, the believer knows that the Father will respond to these concerns.

Persisting In A Good Cause

(Luke 11:5-13)

touch of humor to illustrate the value of persistence. Midnight was a very late hour for people who had no electric lights. The "loaves" were not as large as ours; they were flat discs of varying sizes. Verse 7 does not mean that the whole family was in the same bed. After much knocking and calling by the neighbor, the friend will fumble in the dark and thrust the loaves through the door so he can get back to sleep. Jesus suggested that any of the disciples would do the same thing.

That was the kind of persistence he had in mind when he said they should ask, seek, and knock. It would show that the believer was really serious about whatever he wanted, and it would demonstrate his faith that God would prepare him for whatever answer God would give, perhaps something different and better. Then Jesus reassured his disciples: God would not disappoint or cheat the persistent

prayer. If mere men who are all sinners know how to give good things to their children, the Father will give the best gift of all — the Holy Spirit — to everyone who asks.

Showing The Right Spirit (Luke 18:9-14)

This third principle in practicing the way of authentic prayer is humility. In four crisp verses Jesus portrayed vividly the difference between pride and humility in prayer — really, in one's whole relationship with God. The Pharisee stood in a prominent place and recounted his good deeds and his superiority over others, never recognizing his sin of pride. The despised tax collector stood where he would not be noticed, and without looking up to God, he beat on his breast and begged for mercy. That attitude, Jesus said, was acceptable by God; the other was rejected.

## Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work For March 13

By Bill Duncan  
Long Beach, First

Luke 22:31-34, 54-62; 24:33-34

The story of Peter and his denial of the Lord is true of so many who want to live up to their ideals but fail to do so.

In our last study we saw how that Judas acted by purpose and plan in his failure. The experience of Peter was tripping and falling unexpectedly.

The story of Christianity is love for those who try but fail. We all slip and fall. But we must be willing to accept help in getting up. The forgiveness of God is available to those who will repent and accept God's love and forgiveness.

Do you have a theology of failure? There is no doubt that a believer can experience serious breakdown in loyalty to Christ and he can be restored. Need to experience patience toward those who fail. No one I know is above failure or beyond reconciliation. If you have failed Christ by denying him under pressure, you can repeat

and receive forgiveness and restoration.

### Warning

Jesus was careful to warn Peter about the seriousness of denial. The double address, "Simon, Simon," expressed Jesus' deep personal feeling and concern. Yet the statement of Satan was given to all the disciples. "Satan hath desired to have you." This is not surprising that he wanted to tempt the apostles. Satan had been given permission to shake the disciples like a sieve. The reason God allowed Satan to do so was that they might be made strong. The sifting was the last step in cleaning of impurities.

The sifting will identify who is false. It will also purify the disciples by revealing what is false in those who are true. By separating the false from the true, this process makes God's people more fully usable in His purposes.

"But I have prayed for thee" — you. This reference is singular. Thus the reference was to Simon Peter. Did God answer his prayer? What was his prayer? "That your faith will not fail (TEV)." There was failure, but not the collapse of faith. Jesus prayed for Peter's faith and in the end his prayer was even though Peter stumbled.

If Peter's faith did not fail, what did?

## Pastor Revisits

### India To Check Mission's Status

Harry Gipson, pastor of Providence Baptist Church, Pearl, and layman, Cleo McKinney, made a return trip to South India in February, to evaluate the progress that has been made on missions that were started on a previous trip made in January, 1976. During this stay in India much needed equipment and supplies were purchased for the mission churches.

Plans were made for another mission project that is being sponsored by the Gum Springs Baptist Church of the Simpson County Association.

Gipson reports that the progress made during the past year was much greater than he anticipated in a year's time. He noted that there was much church growth, renovations and improvements of older existing missions.

Gipson would like to express his sincere gratitude to the many individuals and churches that were instrumental in the financial backing of this foreign mission project.

## Devotional

### The Forks Of The Road

By Bobby C. Perry, Pastor, First, Moss Point

"By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter: . . ."

Clavis Chappell, the great Methodist, published a sermon on the experience of Moses entitled "At the Forks of the Road: Moses." The expression "the forks of the road" is an antiquated one. It doesn't refer to the cloverleaf in the highway, or even to a crossroads, but to a place in the lonely countryside where the road forks, angling in two directions. One fork goes to the right and the other to the left.

Moses had come to such a place in life. He now knew who he was, a son of Hebrew parents. He had come to realize more clearly what he ought to be. He stood at this strategically determining point in his life and he made a decision — a decision that meant a whole new way of life.

A MASTER IS CHOSEN and a new direction follows. Moses stood at the forks of the road between Egypt and Israel, between the pleasures of sin and the people of God, and made a choice. When he made this decision, it meant Midian and Horeb, conflicts with Pharaoh, the Red Sea, and the wilderness wanderings. A whole new direction of life opened up before him simply by virtue of the decision.

A NEW CHOICE OF VALUES is involved. Here was Moses confronting the issue. On one side was Egypt — "called the son of Pharaoh's daughter" and "the pleasures of sin for a season." This meant position; it meant wealth; it meant unlimited future. A young man could easily be dazzled by these things.

On the other side was Israel, the people of God. There would be affliction. There would be position, but position with awful responsibilities involved in it. There would be the weariness of wilderness wanderings and a lonely death.

Here a man stood with conflicting values on each side of him. When he chose, his choice was one of values. For Moses it was a choice with a future in the will of God.

THERE IS A NEW DEDICATION. The new dedication began with a great renunciation. The word "refused" indicates that it was a deliberate decision of renunciation. Most dedication begins with the ability of the individual to say "no."

The new dedication was a positive choice or commitment to a new way of life. The primary commitment was to the people of God.

A NEW SIGNIFICANCE is the result. Moses could have chosen to stay in Egypt. Yet he might have died unknown or forgotten. "Moses," someone might have said, "who was Moses?" In fact, no one probably would have known to ask the name. When he chose the people of God, he determined the significance of his life.

When a man stands at the forks of the road and makes the right decision, what enables him to do so? It is faith that gives a person the capacity to see the will of God. In such faith a person can make the right decision.

speech.

Each denial had entangled Peter more and more. First Peter had said, "Woman, I don't even know him." Later, "Man, I am not." Finally, "Man, I don't know what you are talking about!"

Why had Peter done this thing? This was the question Peter asked himself. He "wept bitterly." He had meant to be loyal. When he lost his hope of Jesus taking a throne, he lost all sense of direction and purpose.

### Forgiveness

There were many things that led Peter to the peace of forgiveness. Peter had no more than gotten the words of denial out of his mouth than the rooster crowed. Just as Jesus had said. "The Lord turned and looked upon Peter." The look was full of the tenderness of pity. It was not anger but mercy that Peter saw. The look was

enough to break his heart. "Peter remembered the Lord's words." His memory was a blessing, for in the words of Jesus there had been both a warning and a promise. In that moment he was stripped of his pride and arrogance. All he could do was recognize his sin and call with repentance for help.

The story of Peter's denial is given to us so that we can understand what is happening to us. Satan is real. He is out to ambush us at every point. Therefore we need to proceed with caution. Do not say, "That is one thing I will never do." Overconfidence was one of Peter's weaknesses. The story says to me that prayer really pays. Jesus prayed for Peter and we need to pray for one another. When we have experiences, they can be used to strengthen other persons. Even when we fail, this can help someone else avoid the snare of Satan.